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**From:** Russo, Rebecca  
**Sent:** Wed 9/23/2015 6:40:53 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Gold King Mine Winter Discharge Treatment

Region 8 local elected officials, other state and local representatives and tribal leaders have been notified.

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Rebecca A. Russo

Region 8 Congressional and Intergovernmental Liaison

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**From:** Russo, Rebecca  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 23, 2015 12:40 PM  
**Subject:** Gold King Mine Winter Discharge Treatment

Hi all,

Please find below a press release that will be going out today regarding the Gold King Mine water treatment system for winter 2015-16.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Rebecca

Rebecca A. Russo

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Sept. 23, 2015

## **EPA Announces Gold King Mine Water Treatment System for Winter 2015-16**

(Washington, DC) -- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced today that a portable, temporary treatment system will be located in Gladstone, CO (elevation 10,500ft) to continue treating water discharged from the Gold King Mine during winter 2015-16. This system will replace temporary settling ponds constructed by the EPA in August 2015.

The transition to the portable treatment system is necessary as local winter temperatures can reach -20F, making it

unsafe to manually treat water at the mine site. The schedule calls for the treatment system to be operational by Oct. 14, 2015. EPA's contractor, ER LLC, awarded a subcontract Sept. 22, 2015 to Alexco Environmental Group (US) Inc. to complete the work.

This system will treat the approximately 550 gallons per minute (gpm) of water that continue to flow from the mine, including the discharges related to ongoing work in the mine to stabilize conditions. The system is designed to handle up to 1,200 gpm. The objective of the treatment system is to neutralize the mine discharge and remove solids and metals. Although the Gold king Mine discharge is just one of many into Cement Creek, the treatment will remove a portion of the metal loading to Cement Creek.

The EPA continues to evaluate data to determine the impact of the Gold King Mine on water quality.

Additional information about EPA's Gold King Mine response: [www.epa.gov/goldkingmine](http://www.epa.gov/goldkingmine)

R256